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Rural District of Southam.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1944,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

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1945.

1, MILVERTON HILL,
LEAMINGTON SPA,
September, 1945.

To the Southam Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1944, and it is of special personal interest to me as it marks the completion of 25 years in your service.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is only a short statement of fact. For the first time for several years, statistics can be printed in connection with population, etc. ; it is to be hoped that in the future it will be possible to give further details when printing, paper, etc., are more available.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the members of the Council and my colleagues.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Southam Rural District.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1944	...	...	11,350
Birth Rate	...	...	20.7
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	21
Death Rate	...	...	13.1
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">{</div> <div>From Sepsis</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 2em; margin-right: 5px;">„</div> <div>other causes</div> </div> </div> </div>		—
			5
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	26
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	28
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Death from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

1. (a) *Public Health Officers.*—As before.
2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.		Negative.		Total.
Diphtheria	...	—	2	...	2
Enteric Fever...	...	—	—	...	—
Tuberculosis	...	1	4	...	5
					7
					—

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1.—(i) WATER SUPPLY.

Southam and Long Itchington.—There are now 488 connections to Southam and Long Itchington Water Supply, 290 and 198 respectively.

Harbury, Bishops Itchington, Napton, Ladbroke and Gaydon.—This scheme has proved of the greatest value during the time since its completion ; during the past 4 years the rainfall has been much below the average, and the question

of connecting other villages on to this supply is being explored at the time of writing.

1. Whether the supply has been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity.

(a) Yes. (b) not during the drought period.

2. Where a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made for (a) raw water, (b) treated water

Samples were taken and proved satisfactory.

The results of any chemical analysis.

Satisfactory.

3. Any action taken for contamination.

No.

4. Particulars of proportion of dwelling houses and proportion of population supplied by public water mains. (a) direct to houses, (b) by means of stand pipes.

Approx. proportion of houses and population :—

	<i>Houses and Population.</i>	<i>Stand Pipes.</i>	<i>Own wells and Supply.</i>
Avon Dassett (Private Company)	20% ...	70% ...	10%
Bishops Itchington	25% ...	50% ...	25%
Burton Dassett ... (Private Company)	20% ...	70% ...	10%
Fenny Compton ... (Private Company)	50% ...	45% ...	5%
Gaydon ...	75% ...	20% ...	5%
Ladbroke ...	50% ...	—	50%
Long Itchington ...	50% ...	25% ...	25%
Napton ...	60% ...	30% ...	10%
Priors Hardwick ...	50% ...	50% ...	—
Priors Marston ...	75% ...	20% ...	5%
Radway ...	80% ...	20% ...	—
Southam ...	65% ...	30% ...	5%
Warmington ...	20% ...	70% ...	10%

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—No change.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of Area*.—Table I. gives a summary of inspections.

D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual Table have been compiled and are being kept for Record purposes, but with a view to economy they are not being printed.

3. *Overcrowding*.—Overcrowding continues in the District. Action is difficult, if not impossible.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and Dairies.—The number on the Register is 341.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.—The County Council are the Licensing Authority.

Number licensed to produce T.T. Milk	...	...	11
„ „ „ Accredited Milk	...	...	22

The standard of cleanliness continues to improve ; steam sterilisation is insisted upon.

Under the Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme 567 samples of milk were submitted to the Area Laboratory.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1937.

	Smallpox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1938 ...	—	7	12	—	19	—	3
1939 ...	—	6	18	—	7	—	4
1940 ...	—	2	11	—	11	—	1
1941 ...	—	22	12	1	18	—	2
1942 ...	—	2	10	—	14	—	—
1943 ...	—	1	11	—	12	—	—
1944 ...	—	—	21	—	11	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1944.

Diphtheria.—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The scheme for the immunisation of School Children continued during the year, and at the 31st December, 1944, 2,443 school children had been treated, also 858 under 5 years of age, giving a total of 3,301.

Cases of Infectious Disease are removed by arrangement with the Warwick Joint Hospital Board to their Hospitals.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	...	—	...	—
1	—	1	—	...	1
5	—	1	...	...	—
15	3	1	1	—	...	—
25	1	3	...	—	...	—
35	1	—	...	—	1	...
45	2	—	...	—	2	1
55	—	—	...	—	...	—
65 and upwards	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
TOTALS	...	7	4	...	2	1	...	3

7 patients were admitted to Sanatorium during 1944 ; 4 were discharged.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and kept for reference.

TABLE I.
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	Inspections and Observations made	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	197	—	39	34
Dairies, Milk Shops and Cow Sheds	342	—	4	3
Bakehouses	14	—	1	1
Slaughter Houses (now closed) ...	16	—	—	—
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	107	—	6	6
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	8	—	4	4
Water-closets	20	—	6	6
House Drainage —	59	—	30	30
Water Supply	41	—	2	2
Pigsties	6	—	1	1
Animals improperly kept ...	3	—	1	1
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workshops ...	26	—	3	3
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	839	—	97	91

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	1
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	... ..	31
Schools ditto ditto ditto	... ..	—

H. L. WELCH, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1944 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1938	10,960	176	16.0	15	85	145	13.2
1939	11,050	148	13.5	8	54	153	13.8
1940	11,310	194	17.1	8	40	167	14.7
1941	13,110	193	14.7	10	50	200	15.2
1942	12,740	228	18.5	8	35	145	11.7
1943	11,940	196	17.1	8	41	156	13.0
1944	11,350	231	20.7	6	26	147	13.1

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1944.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1944.
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

		Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	17.6	0.50	11.6	46
126 Great Towns, including London		20.3	0.64	13.7	52
148 Smaller Towns	...	20.9	0.61	12.4	44
London	...	15.0	0.42	15.7	61

TABLE III.

SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1944.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.							Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.			65 and upwards.
Small-pox									
Plague									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)									
Erysipelas									
Scarlet Fever	21	1	16	2	2			12	
Typhus Fever									
Enteric Fever									
Pneumonia	11	1		2	2	6			6
Malaria	32			11	21				
Dysentery									
Puerperal Pyrexia									
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis									
Poliomyelitis									
Encephalitis Lethargica									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2							
Polio-Encephalitis									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11				4	4	3		3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	1	1	1					1
Totals	80	2	3	17	20	29	9	12	10

TABLE IV.
SOUTHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1944.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	78	69
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2 Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—
5 Diphtheria	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	1
7 Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	1	—
9 Influenza	1	3
10 Measles	—	—
11 Ac. Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph. ...	—	—
12 Ac. Infant Enceph.	—	—
13 Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	2
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duod.	6	3
15 Cancer of Breast	—	1
16 Cancer, other Sites	13	4
17 Diabetes	1	1
18 Intra Cran. Vasc. Lesions... ..	3	8
19 Heart Disease	16	22
20 Other Dis. Circ. Sys.	2	3
21 Bronchitis	4	4
22 Pneumonia	4	2
23 Other Resp. Diseases	—	2
24 Ulcer of Stomach and Duod.	1	—
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)... ..	—	—
26 Appendicitis	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases	3	1
28 Nephritis	4	2
29 Puer. and Post Abort Sepsis	—	—
30 Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31 Premature Birth	1	1
32 Con. Mal., Birth Inj., etc.... ..	3	—
33 Suicide	1	—
34 Road Traffic Accidents	2	3
35 Other Violent Causes	1	2
36 All Other Causes	8	4